



*Protecting our land, air and water
to preserve our way of life in harmony with all species.*

Our Earth, Our Home ... Let's Protect It by Changing Simple Habits “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!” in December

At Environmental Protection & Natural Resources, EPNR, we are making Earth Day last all year long. To celebrate, we have added an eagle soaring over Red Mountain to our logo. The eagle symbolizes that we share a fragile and vulnerable habitat with the Desert Nesting Bald Eagle, an environment that is constantly being impacted. Like the eagle, however, we can rise above this challenge and do our part to help protect our home.

Because protecting the environment is everyone's responsibility, we've launched a Clean & Green Campaign to celebrate Earth Year. Every month, in this column, we are showing you how you can change one habit that can make a real and positive eco-friendly difference for our land, our air and our water. At the end of the 12 months, you will have adopted 12 new habits to help protect your home and the environment.

Recycling has many benefits to the Community:

- Conserves natural resources such as timber and minerals
- Reduces air and water pollution
- Saves Salt River Landfill space
- Reduces the cost of solid waste disposal
- Reduces litter within the Community
- Generates money for the Community
- Creates jobs within the Community
- Helps sustain the environment for future generations
- Decreases emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change

During the month of December, we ask you to **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle** by following these simple steps:

Make it a habit to reduce, reuse, recycle!

Reduce how much you use:

- Consume and throw away less in the first place. Buy and use only what you need.
- Buy permanent, durable, long-lasting goods.

Reuse what you can:

- Buy used – anything – clothing, furniture, electronics.
- Dispose of disposables. Replace paper and Styrofoam products with reusable ones. Use cloth napkins, towels and durable coffee mugs.
- Repair what is broken.

Recycle the rest:

- Donate your stuff that you no longer use; do not contribute to the landfill.
- Buy recycled paper and products that use recycled packaging.
- Recycle paper (newspapers, magazines, junk mail, office paper, telephone books).

Why is it important to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle?

FACT: During the past 35 years, the amount of waste each person creates has almost doubled from 2.7 to 4.4 pounds per day. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

FACT: About one-third of all household waste is paper. 14% of landfill space is taken up by newspapers alone. Decomposing paper releases methane gas, a contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. (“How Does Recycling Paper Help Landfills” Green Living)

FACT: If every household in the U.S. replaced just one package of virgin fiber napkins with 100% recycled ones, we could save 1,000,000 trees. (Natural Res. Defense Council)

FACT: More than 90 percent of materials used to make durable goods in the U.S. become waste almost immediately. (Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things)

FACT: Recycling, including composting, diverted 82 million tons of material away from landfills and incinerators in 2006, up from 34 million tons in 1990. (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)



To know more about the Clean & Green Campaign or to be part of the Healthy Habits Team, contact the EPNR Hotline at 480-362-7500 or by email EPNR@SRPMIC-nsn.gov